

Message Text

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ACTION SY-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2170

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 11309

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: FACADE REPAIR

STATE FOR A/SY/FO AND A/SY/NSU

FRANKFURT FOR RSS

1. SEABEE PORTION OF FACADE REPAIR NEARING FINAL STAGES. UNFORTUNATELY, COLD WEATHER HAS ARRIVED AND COMPLETION OF PROJECT THIS YEAR IS DOUBTFUL.

2. SOVIETS COMPLETED YESTERDAY SCAFFOLDING OF SOUTHWEST CORNER OF MAIN BUILDING (BY RUSSIAN ELEVATOR). SEABEES WILL BEGIN ERECTING THEIR SCAFFOLDING ON THIS DATE TO FINISH SOUTHWEST CORNER OF MAIN BUILDING. IT EXPECTED TO TAKE THREE DAYS TO ERECT SCAFFOLDING, PLUS MINIMUM OF THREE DAYS OF WORK ON THE FACADE, AND ANOTHER TWO DAYS TO REMOVE SCAFFOLDING AND PACK TOOLS.

3. ABOVE WORK SCHEDULE DEPENDENT ON GOOD WEATHER. IF WEATHER IS TOO COLD OR RAINY, SEABEES WILL HAVE TO TERMINATE WORK BEFORE COMPLETION. TO DATE THIS MONTH THERE HAS BEEN SOME RAIN ALMOST EVERY DAY AND TEMPERATURE OF LATE HAS BEEN BELOW 10 DEGREE CENT. ACCORDING TO SOVIETS, PAINT MIXTURE WILL NOT SET IF TEMPERATURE BELOW 10 DEGREE CENT.

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4. TWO WEEK WEATHER FORECAST CALLS FOR RAIN, THREE DAYS OF SUB 10 DEGREE WEATHER AND THEN APPROXIMATELY

FOUR DAYS OF ABOVE 10 DEGREE WEATHER.

5. IF WEATHER IS GOOD WOULD HOPE THAT SEABEES CAN FINISH THAT PORTION OF PROJECT INVOLVING USE OF SCAFFOLDING. THERE YET REMAINS THE INSTALLATION/ REPLACEMENT OF APPROXIMATELY 38 BALISTRADES AND THE REPOURING OF SIX PYLONS ON ROOF OF MAIN BUILDING. SOVIETS PROMISED TWO MONTHS AGO THE DELIVERY OF THE BALISTRADES, HOWEVER, NONE WERE DELIVERED. AT ONE TIME THE SOVIETS WERE TALKING OF PRECASTING THE PYLONS (IN SECTIONS) WITH THE SEABEES INSTALLING IN PLACE. IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS THEY STATED THAT SEABEES EXPECTED TO REPAIR THE PYLONS BY POURING NEW ONES IN PLACE. BOTH THE REPAIR/REPLACEMENT OF BALISTRADES AND THE REPAIR OF THE PYLONS WILL HAVE TO BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT YEAR BECAUSE OF COLD WEATHER.

6. WILL ADVISE FURTHER LATER IN WEEK.
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